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SANITIZED VERSION OF MATERIAL RELEASE K-304-5.8 (1957)

(SANITIZED VERSION OF CRD DOCUMENT # KP-1307)

Compiled by
S. G. Thornton
Environmental Management Division
OAK RIDGE K-25 SITE
for the Health Studies Agreement

December 14, 1995

Oak Ridge K-25 Site
Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37831-7314
managed by
LOCKHEED MARTIN ENERGY SYSTEMS, INC.
for the U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
under Contract DE-AC05-84OR21400

This document has been approved for release
of the present by: *ASL*
3/1/96

Environmental Management Division Officer Date
Oak Ridge K-25 Site

To: Mr. H. M. Preuss
K-303-7

Date: **October 18, 1957**

Copies To: Mr. K. M. Jones
File (G. T. E. Sheldon)
Production Division Central Files ✓

Subject: ~~Material~~ Release K-304-5.8

KP-1307

On August 1, 1957, K-304-5, cell 8, was evacuated to 1.0 psia, and at 0730 was pressured to 16.5 psia in an effort to find a 900 SCFD air leak that had not been located by utilizing normal means of leak detecting. No UF₆ was evident, but could be smelled around stages 1 and 2. The relieving operators prepared to enter the cell enclosure about 0815, but found UF₆ vapor present. The cell was then evacuated and given several purges. Meanwhile, a mobile purge unit was connected to the enclosure and the ambient evacuated through the alumina traps. This operation continued for about seven hours in order to remove all of the UF₆ and allow personnel to enter. Soon after 1600, operators from cascade services entered the cell to vacuum and acid clean. Upon completion, the cell was pressured above atmosphere and two leaks were located and repaired on the expansion joint between the 1A and 2B pumps.

Special accountability was requested on the cell enclosure clean-up, and the alumina removed from the mobile purge unit with the following results:

	<u>U</u>	<u>X</u>
Alumina	51 grams	
Enclosure Clean-up	2.7 grams	

The assay of the alumina is unexplainable since this mobile unit has never been used outside of Area 4. The assay of the material cleaned up in the cell enclosure showed 5% lower than the actual assay.

Operating personnel were cautioned about using this method of leak detecting with the reminder that this type of operation should never be performed without taking adequate precautionary methods and certainly never at shift change.

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~~By authority of:~~

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~~SECRET~~ ~~12~~

APR Signature (trial reviewer)

Date _____

G. T. E. Sheldon

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